

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Klaus ABT et al.

Title: CONTAINER AND TOOL FOR FIXING A CONNECTION

Appl. No.: 10/591,907

International

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Examiner: James M. Hewitt

Art Unit: 3679

Confirmation 3413

Number:

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the restriction requirement set forth in the Office Action mailed March 02, 2010, Applicants hereby provisionally elect the invention of Group I, claims 1-8, drawn to a container, for examination, with traverse.

The Examiner has required restriction between claims 1-8 (Group I), drawn to a container with an orifice in which a connection piece is mounted, and claims 9-20 (Group II), drawn to a tool for fixing a connection piece as claimed in claim 1 in a container orifice. Restriction was required because the PTO asserts that "the inventions listed as Groups I and II do not relate to a single general inventive concept...because...they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons: The special technical features of Group I reside in the recited structural elements of the container, whereas the special technical features of Group II reside in the recited structural elements of the tool." (Page 2 of the Office Action.) Applicants respectfully disagree.